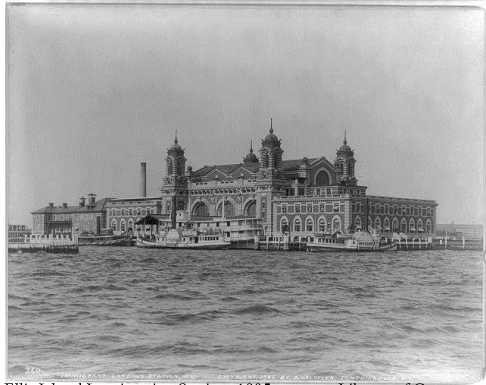




## *Welcome to Ellis Island!*

### Informational Guide for Teachers and Chaperones



Ellis Island Immigration Station, 1905

Library of Congress

Today, Ellis Island is one of the most popular tourist destinations here in New York, especially for students studying immigration in school. A visit to Ellis Island can be a very rewarding learning experience. Because of a high number of visitors – especially in the spring and summer – a little planning goes a long way! Please use this guide to help make your visit as smooth and enriching as possible.

### Getting To and From Ellis Island

Ferries leave regularly from New York's Battery Park in Lower Manhattan and New Jersey's Liberty State Park in Jersey City. Ferry tickets should have been purchased in advance (online at [www.statuecruises.com](http://www.statuecruises.com) or by phone at 877-523-9849). The ferry schedules are subject to change; we highly recommend calling a day or two before you come to confirm the departure times.

Please plan to arrive at least one hour prior to boat departure to allow adequate time to get through security screening; boats leave on their scheduled time regardless of who is or isn't on board!

- Ferries departing from Liberty State Park, NJ will make its first stop at Ellis Island and continue on to Liberty Island before returning to Liberty State Park. It takes approximately 15 minutes to get to Ellis Island from Liberty State Park and 45 minutes to return if you do not get off the boat at Liberty Island.
- Ferries departing from Battery Park, NY will stop at Liberty Island first, and then proceed to Ellis Island before returning directly back to Battery Park. It takes approximately 45 minutes to get to Ellis Island if you do not get off the boat at Liberty Island and 15 minutes to return back to Battery Park.
- Be very aware of the time; programs begin and boats depart at scheduled times only (a departure schedule can be found at the Ellis Island Information Desk on the first floor).

When leaving Ellis Island, the boat on the LEFT returns to Battery Park, while the boat on the RIGHT goes to the Statue of Liberty and then Liberty State Park; if you do not want to visit Liberty Island, stay on the boat when it stops at Liberty Island!

## Congratulations, you're a Chaperone!

The guidelines below will help you during your visit to Ellis Island as a chaperone:

- Chaperones are required to stay with their groups (10 students or less) at all times. This includes inside the museum, theaters, cafeteria, and gift shops at both Ellis and Liberty Island.
- Chaperones should designate a place to meet in the event that the group gets separated.
- Each student should have a park brochure, which contains the floor plan of the museum on Ellis Island and the monument on Liberty Island, a map of Ellis Island, and a map showing the boat routes.
- Chaperones are responsible for keeping track of each member of their group.
- Chaperones are responsible for encouraging their students to follow the museum rules and policies, such as:
  - No eating or drinking inside the museum, outside of designated areas
  - No running
  - Be sure that students keep their belongings with them at all times

## Recommendations

- Arrive early with well-prepared students (Please reference our curriculum-based programs the visitation packet that accompanies the Statue Cruises confirmation letter or for other recommendations please go to <http://www.nps.gov/elis/forteachers>)
- If your group has a scheduled on-site program, please contact a park ranger at the information desk.
- Take lots of pictures!
- Have fun – be respectful – be safe! ☺

